



USC  
UNIVERSITY  
HOSPITAL

November 30, 1995

Health Policy and Planning Division  
Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development  
Attention: Andra Zach  
1600 9th Street, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95814


Dear Mrs. Zach:

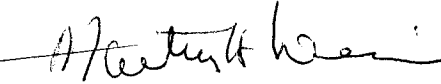
USC University Hospital (USCUH), a 261-bed research, referral and tertiary care teaching hospital, opened May 20, 1991 and was licensed for cardiovascular surgery in September, 1991. For the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development report, the data collection period for acute myocardial infarction patients was from August 26, 1990 through May 31, 1992; therefore, only nine months of data were available from USCUH. In addition, as predicted, the hospital census at opening was initially low, as programs were still being developed. Due to a shortened data collection period and the low census on opening, the number of cases analyzed for acute myocardial infarction patients was less than ten cases.

Due to the small number of cases evaluated, the results were not statistically significant, meaning that it is very likely that the difference in USCUH observed and expected outcomes occurred by chance. It is possible that with an adequate sample size, USC University Hospital's results for acute myocardial infarction would be significantly better than expected. Therefore, the data can't be used to accurately evaluate the care provided at USCUH.

Finally, a discussion of severity levels was not included in this report. Although this data has been severity adjusted, it is recommended that the data would be more comparable if patients were classified into severity levels. In the past, when comparing USCUH's patients to community hospitals using the APRDRG system, USCUH had a greater percentage of patients in severity levels three and four.

Sincerely,

  
Gerald G. Bosworth  
Chief Executive Officer

  
Martin Weiss, M.D.  
Chief of Staff

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